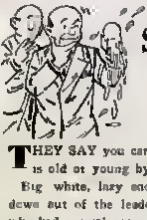
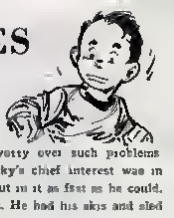
CAPTAIN MARVEL
WHIZ
COMICS
A FAWC PUBLICATION
APR.
10¢
NO. 154
MORE PAGES OF STORIES!
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WHIZ A DR. DEATH SPINE CHILLING HORROR TALE!
ALSO CAPTAIN MARVEL EXPLORES SIVANA'S MONSTER WORLD! AND MORE...THE ADVENTURES OF LANCE O'CASEY-IBIS-GOLDEN ARROW!



STRAWBERRIES

A Wicky and O'Shaughnessy Story

By Walter Farmer



THEY SAY you can tell whether a person is old or young by his reaction to snow.

Big white, lazy snowflakes were drifting down out of the leaden sky. Wicky Burke, who had several years to go before he would become of voting age, looked out the window and exclaimed, "Yippee! Wow! Yaaa-hoo! It's snowing!"

Wicky's father, who had been voting for quite a number of years, looked out another window and groaned. "Oh Heavens! It's snowing!"

It was the first snow of the season. The first flakes hit the warm earth and melted right away. Then some of them began to stick on the bare limbs of the trees and on the housetops. Soon there was quite a blanket of white over the landscape.

"What a lucky thing!" exclaimed Wicky. "It snows on Saturday! I'll get out my sled and my skis! I'll build a snow man! We'll have a big snowball fight! Wow wasee!"

Mr. Burke was saying: Oh my goodness, I hope the snow stops. I hope it doesn't interfere with plane schedules. This is the day that Mr. John Peter Bigwheel is supposed to come to town and confer with me. If his plane can't land here, it'll be awful, simply awful!"

Mr. Burke was branch manager of Bigwheel, Inc. This firm was international, having key offices in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, London, Paris, Buenos Aires and Hamilton, Ohio. Mr. Bigwheel, himself, was so pleased with the work of Wicky's father that he had arranged to fly to town for a conference. Mr. Burke was looking forward to a big promotion and a raise in salary—if he pleased the boss.

Being a good father, Mr. Burke had never asked Wicky to worry over such problems. Consequently Wicky's chief interest was in the snow. He got out in it as fast as he could. He made snowballs. He had his skis and sled ready. He started building a snow man.

Then the sky began to lighten and the snow stopped falling.

"Aw, gee, what terrible luck!" exclaimed Wicky.

"Heaven be praised, what good luck!" exclaimed Wicky's father.

Inasmuch as the snow had stopped and the sky had cleared up, the plane carrying Mr. John Peter Bigwheel was able to land without mishap. Mr. Burke met Mr. Bigwheel at the airport. Mr. Bigwheel was a large, hearty man who shook Mr. Burke's hand as if he were attempting to break several fingers.

"Burke, I've heard a lot about you," he said in his rumbling bass voice. "You could go far in our company. Wouldn't be surprised if you take my place some day when I retire!"

Mr. Burke made a modest reply. Then he invited the boss out to the house for dinner.

"Thank you just the same," said Mr. Bigwheel. "I'm sure your wife can cook a meal fit for the gods, but since I have only a few minutes to spend in your town, I'll have to decline. I want to visit the factory and then I'll just have enough time to have dinner in the hotel before the evening plane leaves. However, I do hope Burke, that you can have dinner with me."

Mr. Burke said he could.

Bigwheel continued. "You know, I have to spend too much of my time in the big city. Whenever I get into a small town like this, it reminds me of the joys of my boyhood. I

(Continued on inside back cover)

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WHENEVER BILLY BATSON, FAMOUS BOY NEWSCASTER, SAYS THE WORD SHAZAM HE IS MIRACULOUSLY CHANGED INTO POWERFUL CAPTAIN MARVEL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL AND COMBINES IN HIS MAGNIFICENT PHYSIQUE THE POWERS OF SIX OF THE MIGHTIEST HEROES OF ALL TIME!

SOLOMON — WISDOM
HERCULES — STRENGTH
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ZEUS — POWER
ACHILLES — COURAGE
MERCURY — SPEED

THE SIVANA WORLD CAPTAIN MARVEL FORBIDDEN BY LAW! PENALTY IF CAPTAIN MARVEL SHOWS UP—999,999,999 YEARS IN JAIL!

HOLY MOLEY!

HALT, YOU BIG, RED BLOCKHEAD! YOU CAN'T FIGHT A LAW!

TIME AND AGAIN, DR. SIVANA, THE WORLD'S MADDEST SCIENTIST HAS SCHEMED TO RULE THE WORLD, ONLY TO BE FOILED BY THAT GREAT CHAMPION, CAPTAIN MARVEL! BUT FOR ONCE, THE EVIL GENIUS SEEMS TO SUCCEED AND GAIN RULE! AND IT TAKES ALL THE POWER AND WITS OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL TO BATTLE THE AMAZING THREAT OF... SIVANA'S MONSTER WORLD!

BILLY BATSON, BOY NEWSCASTER OF STATION WHIZ-TV, HAS TWO IMPORTANT ITEMS TO BROADCAST!

FLASH! DR. SIVANA JUST ESCAPED JAIL!

FLASH! ASTRONOMERS REPORT A WANDERING WORLD DRIFTING IN FROM OUTER SPACE STRAIGHT TOWARD EARTH!

WHIZ-TV

AFTER THE BROADCAST...

HOLY MOLEY! DR. SIVANA, THE WORLD'S MADDEST SCIENTIST, AT LARGE! AND EARTH IN DANGER OF COLLISION! I'VE GOT A DOUBLE REASON TO SAY—

SHAZAM!

IN ANSWER TO THE MYSTIC WORLD, MAGIC LIGHTNING THUNDERS DOWN, CHANGING BILLY INTO HIS OTHER FORM OF...

BOOM

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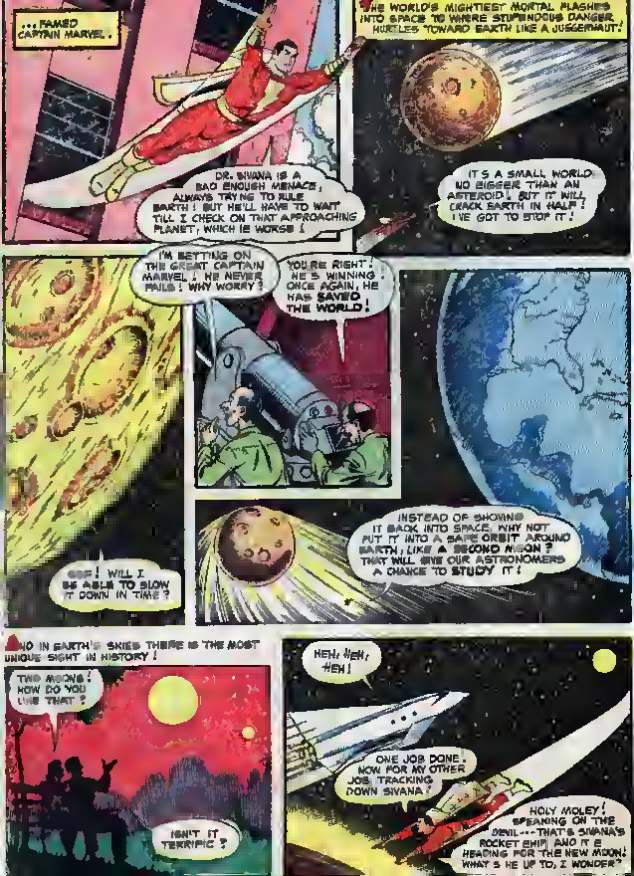

...FAMED CAPTAIN MARVEL.
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL FLASHES INTO SPACE TO WHERE STUPENDOUS DANGER HURTLES TOWARD EARTH LIKE A JUGGERNAUT!
DR. SIVANA IS A BAD ENOUGH MENACE, ALWAYS TRYING TO RULE EARTH! BUT HE'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL I CHECK ON THAT APPROACHING PLANET, WHICH IS WORSE!
IT'S A SMALL WORLD! NO BIGGER THAN AN ASTEROID! BUT IT WILL CRACK EARTH IN HALF! I'VE GOT TO STOP IT!
I'M BETTING ON THE GREAT CAPTAIN MARVEL! HE NEVER FAILS! WHY WORRY?
YOU'RE RIGHT! HE'S WINNING ONCE AGAIN, HE HAS SAVED THE WORLD!
GEE! WILL I BE ABLE TO SLOW IT DOWN IN TIME?
INSTEAD OF SHOVING IT BACK INTO SPACE, WHY NOT PUT IT INTO A SAFE ORBIT AROUND EARTH, LIKE A SECOND MOON? THAT WILL GIVE OUR ASTRONOMERS A CHANCE TO STUDY IT!
AND IN EARTH'S SKIES THERE IS THE MOST UNIQUE SIGHT IN HISTORY!
TWO MOONS! HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?
ISN'T IT TERRIFIC?
HEH, HEH, HEH!
ONE JOB DONE. NOW FOR MY OTHER JOB, TRACKING DOWN SIVANA!
HOLY MOLEY! SPEAKING ON THE DEVIL--- THAT'S SIVANA'S ROCKET SHIP! AND IT'S HEADING FOR THE NEW MOON! WHAT'S HE UP TO, I WONDER?

WITHIN HIS SHIP THE EVIL MASTER MIND HAS SPAWNED A NEW PLOT TO CARRY ON H.S WICKED AIMS!

HEH HEH. I'VE GOT A TERRIFIC NEW SCHEME! BEFORE THAT BIG RED-CHEEKS CHASES AND NABS ME, I'LL SPEED IT UP AND LAND ON THE NEW WORLD! HEH! HEHHHHHHHH!

SIVANA LANDS HIS SHIP ON THE NEW MOON BUT AS HE STEPS OUT...

GOT YOU, WORM!!

HAVE YOU STUPID? HEH HEH HEH HEH!

STOP! YOU CAN'T TAKE ME BACK TO JAIL NOW, LET ME ASK YOU ONE SIMPLE QUESTION, STUPO! IS THIS EARTH?

NO OF COURSE IT ISN'T EARTH; IT'S ANOTHER WORLD!

ALL RIGHT! THEN EARTH'S LAWS DON'T APPLY HERE. ANY MORE THAN THEY WOULD ON MARS! NAME THE LAW THAT ALLOWS YOU TO DRAG ME AWAY FROM HERE? GO AHEAD! WELL? HEH HEHHHHHH!

I---UH-I--BUT---?

CAPTAIN MARVEL REALIZES IT IS A UNIQUE SITUATION, NOT COVERED BY EARTH LAWS!

HOLY MOLEY! TECHNICALLY HE'S RIGHT! I CAN'T LAWFULLY DRAG HIM AWAY FROM THIS NEW WORLD, AGAINST HIS WILL! HE'S GOT ME!

KING SIVANA

WHAT'S MORE, I HEREBY CLAIM THIS WORLD! I WAS THE FIRST TO SET FOOT ON IT! YOU DIDN'T EVEN BEFORE YOU ONLY SHOVED! I NOW NAME THIS WORLD--- THE SIVANA WORLD! HEH!

SIVANA WORLD? OH COME NOW, YOU CAN'T JUST CLAIM THIS NEW PLANET FOR YOURSELF

I CERTAINLY CAN! DIDN'T COLUMBUS CLAIM AMERICA IN THE SAME MANNER? I'LL MAKE THE LAWS HERE NOW! AND THE FIRST LAW IS THAT CAPTAIN MARVEL IS FOR-BIDDEN HERE! GET OFF MY WORLD! HEH! HEH! HEH!

HOLY MOLEY!

ALL RIGHT, YOU WIN FOR NOW SIVANA. BUT DON'T SHOW UP ON EARTH OR I'LL NAB YOU.

HYAAA! WHO CARES! AT LAST I'VE GOT MY OWN WORLD! I'M KING HERE! IT'S MINE---ALL MINE! HEH HEH HEH HEH!

BUT SUDDENLY, BEFORE CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS GONE .....
HELP! MONSTER! SAVE ME, CAPTAIN MARVEL!
DON'T BE SILLY SIVANA. YOU KICKED ME OFF YOUR WORLD--REMEMBER? I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO COME BACK!
THAT GAVE YOU A GOOD SCARE! BUT I CAN'T LET EVEN A LITTLE MONSTER LIKE YOU BE EATEN ALIVE! I'LL LET YOU GET IN YOUR SHIP SAFELY!
GULP!
AND WITHIN, SIVANA SITS IMPRISONED, KING OF A HORRIBLE WORLD WITHOUT PEOPLE!
THE NEXT DAY, STARTLING NEWS IS RADIOED FROM THE SIVANA WORLD TO EARTH!
ATTENTION EARTH! THE SIVANA WORLD IS RICH WITH GOLD! WHO WOULD LIKE TO MINE THIS GOLD?
YAYYY!
GOLD?
WOW!
ONE MORE LITTLE THING, SIVANA! THIS WORLD HAS NO PEOPLE! I FLEW AROUND IT BEFORE, CHECKING UP! HAVE FUN HERE, SIVANA, AS A HERMIT! THE JOKE'S ALL ON YOU!
CURSES! CURSES!
CURSES! OF COURSE I CAN KILL THE MONSTER WITH MY RAY-GUN! BUT WHAT GOOD WILL THAT DO? A WORLD WITHOUT PEOPLE TO RULE! WHAT A FIASCO! I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING!
AND SOON...
GET YOUR FREE RIDE TO THE SIVANA WORLD WHERE THERE'S GOLD FOR ALL! STEP IN!
I'M FOR IT!
ME, TOO!
LEAD ON!
YAYYY!
BILLY BATSON HEARS OF THE STRANGE GOLD RUSH TO ANOTHER WORLD!
HOLY MOLEY! PEOPLE ARE BEING FLOWN TO THE SIVANA WORLD FOR GOLD! A COLONY IS BEING SET UP! I'LL STOP THAT LITTLE WEASEL'S SCHEME---
SHAZAM!
BLACK LIGHTNING AGAIN BRINGS CAPTAIN MARVEL!
BOOM

GOLD! COME ONE, COME ALL! TO THE SIVANA WORLD! HEHHHHH!
NOW I'VE GOT SIVANA! HE CAMED TO LAND ON EARTH; WHERE I CAN LEGALLY GRAB HIM FOR ARREST!
BUT ABOUT A SURPRISE...
WHERE'S SIVANA? WHAT--- ONLY A TV IMAGE!
HEH HEH! HELLO, YOU BIG RED DUMMOX! I'M NOT HERE IN PERSON! I RUN THE SHIP BY REMOTE CONTROL! SAFE ON MY WORLD---- WHERE YOU CAN'T GET ME!
STOP, FOLKS! LISTEN TO ME! DON'T LET SIVANA GET YOU--- HELP! NO USE! THE GOLD FEVERS GOT THEM!
BUT WHAT IF THERE'S DANGER UP THERE FROM THE MONSTERS? I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW! AND I THINK I KNOW OF A WAY TO EXPOSE SIVANA TO THE PEOPLE!
WELCOME TO THE SIVANA WORLD! HEH HEH!
WAIT, FOLKS! SIVANA IS A SWEATY LIAR, CHEAT AND TYRANT! HE CONCOCTED THAT GOLD STORY TO GET YOU HERE UNDER HIS THUMB! YOU WON'T FIND GOLD HERE!
OH NO? WELL, LOOK AT THESE BIG NUGGETS! YAYYYY!
OMIGOSH! IT'S TRUE!
SURE CAPTAIN MARVEL! THIS WORLD IS REALLY LOADED WITH IT!
SUDDENLY---
GRRR!
ROARRR!
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL PERFORMS IN HIS ASTOUNDING WAY AGAINST THE BEASTS!
STAND BACK, EVERYBODY! I'LL SETTLE THE HASH OF THIS BABY BUT GOOD!
THERE MIGHT BE PLENTY OF GOLD, BUT THIS WORLD IS ALSO INHABITED BY MAN EATING MONSTERS!
HELP! OHHH!
CRACK!

GOSH! WITH CAPTAIN MARVEL AROUND, WE'RE N NO DANGER!
WHAM
BUT KING SIVANA'S WORD IS SUPREME ON THE SIVANA WORLD, AND...
ENOUGH HEROICS, YOU BIG SHOW-OFF! NOW GO! GET OFF MY WORLD! I COMMAND IT!
B-BUT SIVANA! I'VE GOT TO PROTECT THESE PEOPLE! LET ME STAY!
HEH HEH! I'VE GOT HIM JUST WHERE I WANT HIM!
YOU CAN STAY, CAPTAIN MARVEL—BUT ONLY IF YOU SIGN THIS DOCUMENT MAKING ME YOUR KING! TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!
SIGN MYSELF INTO THE SIVANA KINGDOM? HOLY MOLEY! I HAVE NO CHOICE! I'LL SIGN!
TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE, CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS GIVEN UP HIS FREEDOM BECOMING AN UTTER SLAVE OF EVIL SIVANA WHO MAKES THE MOST OF IT!
SHINE MY BOOTS, SLAVE! HEH HEH! I'M YOUR KING! YOU CAN'T DISOBEY! HEHHHH!
YES, SIRE! RIGHT AWAY, SIRE!
WHEN MONSTERS ATTACK, CAPTAIN MARVEL IS ALWAYS ON THE JOB!
THAT GETS RID OF IT AND BURIES IT AT THE SAME TIME!
WHAM
BUT ALWAYS N BETWEEN, SIVANA REAPS HUMILIATION UPON THE HEAD OF HIS HATED ENEMY!
SHOVEL OUT THAT SWAMP MUD PIG! AND NO SASS OR, I'LL CLAP YOU IN JAIL! AS YOU SO OFTEN DO TO ME! I'M BOSS HERE! HEHHHH!
GOOD GREF! WHAT A MESSY JOB!
AND THOUGH HE IS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL, CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS NO WAY OUT OF HIS EMBARRASSING PREDICAMENT!
HE'S RUBBING IT IN GOOD! BUT AS LONG AS HE'S KING OF THIS WORLD, HE'S GOT THE UPPER HAND! AND ALL THE WHILE HE'S GETTING MORE AND MORE PEOPLE HERE; SETTING UP A POWERFUL KINGDOM! HE MIGHT EVEN TRY TO ATTACK EARTH SOME DAY! WHAT CAN I DO? I'M HELPLESS!

AND THE EVIL GENIUS GLOATS AT THE COMPLETE SUCCESS OF HIS CUNNING PLOT!
WITH YOU UNDER MY THUMB, I'M CAN I LOSE? I'LL RULE BOTH WORLDS IN TIME! HAH HAH! GET THAT MONSTER, BLANK!
ROARR
BUT LATER, OMINOUS SOUNDS ARE HEARD UNDERGROUND!
WHEN I'M KING OF EARTH, I'LL FIRST TAX EVERYBODY 99% AND --- YIPES! WHY IS THE GROUND CRACKING UP?
KRAK
CRACK
RUMBLE
SIVANA, LISTEN: THIS NEW MOON IS TOO NEAR EARTH! EARTH'S POWERFUL ATTRACTION IS PULLING IT APART! YOUR WORLD IS GOING TO CRACK UP INTO A MILLION PIECES!
HELP! I'M TOO YOUNG AND HANDSOME TO DIE!
CRASH
RUMBLE
HE DISSERTED HIS WORLD LIKE A RAT LEAVING A SINKING SHIP! HE LEFT ALL THE PEOPLE BEHIND! I'LL GET HIM ON EARTH!
I'M L-LEAVING! BACK TO SOLID OLD EARTH FOR ME!
LATER, ON EARTH...
HEY! TWO MOONS UP THERE! THEN THE NEW WORLD DIDN'T CRACK UP AFTER ALL!
NO, SIVANA, OLD KID! LET ME TELL YOU A LITTLE STORY!
CRASH
TRICKED LIKE A BABY!
RIGHT, CHUM! NOW, THIS BEING EARTH, I ARREST YOU! THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY OUT OF MY TRAP!
BAM!
LATER, BILLY BATSON BROADCASTS THE NEWS!
NO, FOLKS! YOU WON'T SEE TWO MOONS IN YOUR SKY ANY MORE! AFTER TAKING ALL THE PEOPLE HOME, USING SIVANA'S SHIP, CAPTAIN MARVEL HAD TO SHOVE THAT WANDERING WORLD BACK INTO SPACE BECAUSE IN TIME IT WOULD HAVE CRACKED UP IN EARTH'S GRAVITY FIELD! SIVANA'S WORLD NOW CONSISTS OF A STONE CELL IN JAIL! HE CAN BE KING OF THAT ALL HE WANTS!
LITTLE BY LITTLE I CREATED AN ARTIFICIAL EARTHQUAKE UNDERGROUND! I CRACKED THE GROUND WITHOUT HURTING THE OTHERS! BUT I FOOLED YOU, SIVANA! IT WAS ALL A HOAX!

LANCE O'CASEY

The KILLERS of SHARK POOL

IN THE MURKY DEPTHS, LANCE O'CASEY AND HIS PARTNER, MIKE BELLEW, WERE FIGHTING OFF A SCHOOL OF SAW-TOOTHED MAN-EATERS! BUT EVEN IF THEY WON, A DEADLIER DANGER AWAITED THEM — THE MENACE BEHIND THE KILLERS OF SHARK POOL!

OFF THE FLORIDA COAST, MIKE BIDS FAREWELL TO THE STARFISH —

I'LL BE BACK TOMORROW, LANCE! I WANT TO VISIT MY UNCLE, PROFESSOR CYRUS BELLEW. HE RUNS THE FAMOUS MARINE GARDENS!

I'VE HEARD OF IT! IT'S A LIVING MUSEUM OF OCEAN LIFE! WELL, GET BACK AS SOON AS YOU CAN, MIKE!

NIGHT HAS FALLEN AS MIKE ARRIVES AT THE GARDENS AND A STARTLING SCENE GREETS HIM!

THOSE MEN ARE FIGHTING! ONE OF THEM HAS A KNIFE! I'D BETTER MOVE FAST!

BUT THE ASSASSIN'S BLADE PLUNGES SWIFTLY!

EEEYAH!

THE MURDERING SWINE! HE'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

YOU DIRTY KILLER, I'LL — OOOFFFF!
OUT OF MY WAY! I'M IN A HURRY!
WHAM!
I CAN'T MOVE! HE'S GETTING AWAY!
AS THE MAN KNOWN AS STRUGGLES TO THE VICTIM'S SIDE...
IT'S UNCLE CYRUS! HE'S DEAD!
JUST THEN A HAND SWINGS OUT FROM THE DARKNESS AND...
CONK!
WHEN MIKE COMES TO A SHORT TIME LATER, HE'S IN HOT WATER — UP TO HIS NECK!
I'M PROFESSOR BELLEW'S ASSISTANT, RIG DRAVEN! I FOUND THIS MAN WITH A KNIFE IN HIS HAND NEAR THE BODY! I WAS ABOUT TO CALL THE POLICE WHEN —
— WHEN WE ARRIVED! I UNDERSTAND, MR. DRAVEN! YOU'RE MIGHTY LUCKY WE HAPPENED TO COME THIS WAY!
WE'RE FOLLOWING TWO BANDITS WHO ROBBED THE GREENVILLE BANK! WE TRACED ONE OF THEM IN THIS DIRECTION AND THEN LOST THE TRAIL!
A BANK ROBBER? MAYBE THIS IS YOUR MAN! HE LOOKS LIKE A ROUGH CUSTOMER!
OKAY, SAILOR! YOU'D BETTER TALK AND TALK FAST!
I CAN EXPLAIN, OFFICER! THE DEAD MAN WAS MY UNCLE! I CAME HERE TO VISIT HIM! YOU CAN CHECK WITH MY SHIPMATE, LANCE O'GRADY!
I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INTO TROUBLE, BELLEW, BUT —
I UNDERSTAND, DRAVEN! IT'S A MISTAKE ANYONE COULD HAVE MADE!

I SWEAR I'LL CATCH THE MAN WHO KILLED MY UNCLE! WHOEVER HE IS, HE'LL PAY FOR HIS CRIME!
I'M WITH YOU, MIKE!
AND NOW, AS THE PROFESSOR'S CLOSEST RELATIVE, I SUGGEST YOU TAKE CHARGE OF THE GARDENS, MR. BELLEW!
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO! I SUPPOSE YOU SHOW US AROUND, MR. DAVEN!
AND THIS IS SHARK POOL! A HUGE TANK THAT CENTERS AROUND THAT ISLAND! COME DOWN TO THE SIDE VIEWING PORT AND YOU'LL GET A CLOSE-UP OF OUR MAN-KILLERS!
THERE THEY ARE! AND THERE'S THE GIANT ELECTRIC EEL WE KEEP WITH THEM! THAT SEA SNAKE GENERATES ENOUGH POWER TO KNOCK OUT A GROWN MAN!
MOMENTS LATER ON THE EDGE OF ANOTHER TANK, MIKE SLIPS AND...
EASY, MIKE!
BELLEW! O'CASEY! GET AWAY FROM THAT TANK, QUICK!
SUDDENLY, A ROARING, THRASHING DEMON SURGES UP FROM THE WATERS!
A GIANT MANTA-RAY!
THAT THREE TON MANTA COULD SMASH YOU TO A PULP WITH ONE OF HIS WINGS! HE'D KILL ANYONE HE COULD GET AT BUT ME! I'M THE ONE WHO FEEDS HIM! WATCH--I'M GOING TO FEED HIM NOW!
SPLASH!

LANCE AND MIKE WATCH, RAVEN FEEDS THE GIANT FISH.
IT'S AMAZING! IF I DIDN'T SEE IT, I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT!
BUT LANCE WOULD BE EVEN MORE AMAZED IF HE COULD HAVE LISTENED IN ON A CONVERSATION IN A LOCAL BARROOM THAT NIGHT!
ARE YOU CRAZY, RAVEN? WEREN'T THINGS HOT ENOUGH AFTER THAT ROBBERY? WHY'D YOU HAVE TO KNOCK OFF THE PROFESSOR?
RELAX, FAIN! THE COPS DON'T SUSPECT ME! BESIDES, I HAD TO DO SOMETHING! THE OLD GEEZER DISCOVERED WHERE I'D HIDDEN THE MONEY! HE WAS GOING TO THE COPS!
WELL, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT WITH THE COPS BREATHING DOWN OUR NECKS WE'LL HAVE TO GET THAT MONEY AND LEAVE TONIGHT!
THAT WON'T BE EASY WITH CASEY AND BELLEW HANGING AROUND THE GARDENS! BUT WE'LL FIND A WAY!
LATER THAT NIGHT THE CONSPIRATORS SLIP INTO THE MARINE GARDENS!
THERE'S ONE OF THEM NOW! IT'S BELLEW—STANDING ON THE EDGE OF SHARK POOL!
WELL, WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? LET'S GO!
LANCE! HELP!
SPLASH!
AS MIKE PLUNGES DEEP INTO THE WATERS, A HUGE SNAKE-LIKE SHADOW SLIPS TOWARD HIM, AND...
SSSS

COME ON, YOU MAN-EATING DEVILS! I'VE GOT PLENTY OF COLD STEEL WAITING FOR ALL OF YOU!
WITH DESPERATE COURAGE, LANCE FIGHTS HIS WAY TO THE ISLAND--JUST AS MIKE RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS!
THANKS, LANCE! I'D BE MINCEMEAT NOW IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU!
I GOT SEVERAL OF THESE SHARKS! THERE ARE ONLY TWO LEFT NOW!
THEY MADE IT! THEY GOT AWAY!
YES, BUT THEY'RE TRAPPED ON THAT ISLAND! THOSE SHARKS WILL KEEP AN EYE ON THEM FOR US WHILE WE RECOVER THE BANK LOOT!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, MIKE? THE LOOT FROM THE BANK!
YEAH! IT WAS DAVEN AND SOME OTHER WHARF-RAT! THEY WERE THE ONES WHO PUSHED ME IN! THINGS ARE BEGINNING TO CLEAR UP NOW!
WE'VE GOT TO GET OFF THIS ISLAND AND STOP THOSE KILLERS!
BUT, LANCE! HOW'LL WE DO IT WITH THOSE SHARKS WATCHING THE ISLAND?
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! QUICK, BRAID SOME LINE OUT OF THAT TOUGH GRASS WHILE I WHITTLE THIS PIECE OF WOOD!
OKAY, LANCE! I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

SOON AFTERWARD, LANCE EXPLAINS...
I'VE WHITTLED THIS PIECE OF WOOD INTO A GORGE--A STONE-AGE FISHING HOOK! PROPERLY BAITED, THE SHARK CAN'T SWALLOW IT, BUT WHEN WE YANK ON THE GRASS ROPE, THE GORGE TURNS SIDEWISE AND...
YOW! THOSE SHARKS ARE IN FOR A ROUGH TIME!
BAITING THEIR LINES WITH BITS OF CLOTH, LANCE AND MIKE CAPTURE THE SHARKS!
YAHOO! WE'VE GOT THEM!
QUICK, TIE THE GRASS LINES TO THE TREES!
SPLASH
OKAY, MIKE! WE'RE IN THE CLEAR!
LET'S GO!
SOON AFTER-WARD, ON THE OTHER SHORE, LANCE AND MIKE WITNESS A STRANGE SCENE--
SO THAT'S WHERE THE MONEY'S HIDDEN!
THE PERFECT HIDING PLACE! DAVEN HAD THE BANK LOOT HIDDEN UNDER THAT GIANT MANTA-RAY IN A WATERPROOF BAG!
MOMENTS LATER AS DAVEN EMERGES TO JOIN HIS CROOKED PARTNER...
OKAY, BOYS, THIS IS THE PAYOFF!
SOCK!
BAM!
DON'T HIT THEM TOO-HARD, MIKE! WE WANT ENOUGH OF THEM LEFT TO STAND TRIAL!
DON'T WORRY, A GOOD DUNKING WILL BRING THEM AROUND!
WHAM!
SPLASH!
AS THE KILLERS HIT THE POOL, A SAVAGE BOLT OF OCEAN LIGHTNING STRIKES.
YOW! GLUB-GLUB-GLUB-GLUB
ZZTTAAAPPP!
LATER, AFTER THE CROOKS ARE TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE--
GIANT MANTAS, SHARKS, ELECTRIC EELS--I DON'T THINK I COULD STAND THE STRAIN OF RUNNING A PLACE LIKE THIS! I GUESS I'LL SIGN THESE MARINE GARDENS OVER TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY!
A GOOD IDEA, MIKE! AND AFTER THAT, WE'LL GO BACK TO THE STARFISH FOR A NICE QUIET REST!

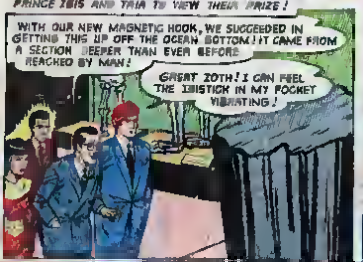
IBIS
THE INVINCIBLE

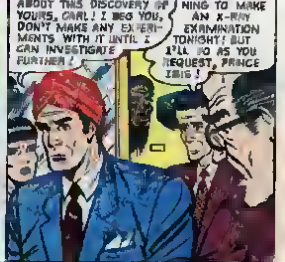
PRINCE IBIS, MAN OF MIRACLES AND MASTER OF WHITE MAGIC FIRST CAME TO LIFE IN THE EGYPT OF 4000 YEARS AGO! PUT IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR CENTURIES, IBIS HAS AWAKENED TO BATTLE MODERN CRIME AND EVIL WITH THE AID OF HIS MAGIC IBISTICK!

and THE MAN-EATER FROM THE DEEP

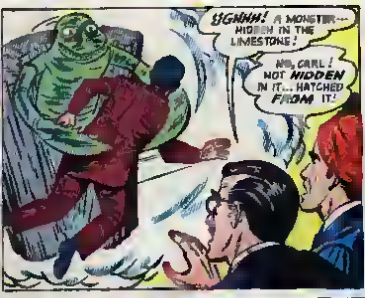
WHAT LIES AT THE UNEXPLORED DEPTHS OF THE SEA? NO ONE KNOWS! SCIENTIST CARL DREW MADE AN EFFORT TO FIND OUT! HE BROUGHT BACK NOTHING BUT A QUEER LIMESTONE BLOCK — BUT HE COULDN'T KNOW THAT HIS DISCOVERY WOULD SPAWN SUCH HORRORS THAT EVEN PRINCE IBIS, WITH ALL HIS WHITE MAGIC, COULD SCARCELY COPE WITH THE MAN-EATER FROM THE DEEP!

BACK FROM AN UNUSUAL DEEP SEA EXPEDITION COMES CARL DREW AND PHILIP MANSTON! AND THEY INVITE PRINCE IBIS AND THIA TO VIEW THEIR PRIZE!


WITH OUR NEW MAGNETIC HOOK, WE SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THIS UP OFF THE OCEAN BOTTOM! IT CAME FROM A SECTION DEEPER THAN EVER BEFORE REACHED BY MAN!
GREAT ZOTH! I CAN FEEL THE IBISTICK IN MY POCKET VIBRATING!


THERE IS SOMETHING EVIL ABOUT THIS DISCOVERY OF YOURS, CARL! I BEG YOU, DON'T MAKE ANY EXPERIMENTS WITH IT UNTIL I CAN INVESTIGATE FURTHER!
WE WERE PLANNING TO MAKE AN X-RAY EXAMINATION TONIGHT! BUT I'LL DO AS YOU REQUEST, PRINCE IBIS!

BUT THAT NIGHT, PHILIP MANSTON RETURNS ALONE TO THE MUSEUM AND SETS UP THE X-RAY APPARATUS!
PRINCE ZEUS IS JUST BEING SUPERSTITIOUS! CARL HAD NO REASON TO LISTEN TO HIM! I WON'T POSTPONE OUR EXPERIMENT ANY LONGER!
WHAT POSSIBLE EVIL COULD EXIST IN A MERE BLOCK OF LIMESTONE? THE X-RAYS MAY REVEAL DETAILS OF ITS CONSTRUCTION THAT...
I SEE A DARK BLOB INSIDE THE LIMESTONE! IT SEEMS TO BE MOVING! INCREDIBLE!
UNDER THE STIMULATION OF THE RAYS, THE MOVEMENTS OF THE THING WITHIN THE LIME-STONE GREW MORE PRONOUNCED!
KRAK!
IT-IT'S COMING OUT!
YAAAAA!
THE NEXT MORNING...
I FOUND HIS BODY ALMOST PICKED CLEAN OF ALL FLESH WHEN I CAME THIS MORNING, IBIS! WHO COULD HAVE DONE IT?
THE SAME THING THAT CRACKED OPEN THE LIMESTONE BLOCK! A MAN-EATING BEING OF INCREDIBLE POWER!
IBISTICK! SHOW US WHAT TOOK PLACE HERE AT THE INSTANT OF PHILIP MANSTON'S DEATH!
INSTANTLY THE MAGIC POWER OF THE IBISTICK PROJECTS A PICTURE UPON THE WALL!


UGHHH! A MONSTER... HIDDEN IN THE LIMESTONE!
NO, CARL! NOT HIDDEN IN IT... HATCHED FROM IT!

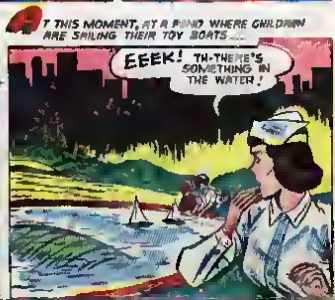
YOU MEAN THAT THE LIMESTONE WAS A MONSTROUS EGG?
YES--AND IT WAS THE EVIL LIKE WITHIN IT THAT THE LIBSTICK TRIED TO WARN US ABOUT! UNFORTUNATELY, PHILIP MANSTON DIDN'T BELIEVE THE WARNING!

THIS IS A KIND OF CREATURE NEVER BEFORE SEEN ON EARTH, PRINCE ZORS! WE MUST FIND IT BEFORE IT DOES ANY MORE HARM!
THE DANGER IS EVEN GREATER THAN EVEN YOU REALIZE, CARL!
EXIT

THINK OF IT! THIS MONSTER, AT BIRTH, WAS LARGE ENOUGH, POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DESTROY A MAN! WHAT WILL THE MONSTER BE LIKE WHEN IT IS FULL GROWN?
I-I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!

IT MUST GROW AT A SPEED THAT WOULD BE INCREDIBLE TO US! THE ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE IS A THOUSAND TIMES LIGHTER HERE THAN WHERE IT WAS FOUND! THAT ALONE WOULD ENABLE IT TO EXPAND AT AN ENORMOUS RATE!
LIBSTICK! LET US FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE SEA MONSTER!

IT WENT THIS WAY! HURRY!
MUSEUM


AT THIS MOMENT, AT A POND WHERE CHILDREN ARE SAILING THEIR TOY BOATS...
EEEK! TH-THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WATER!

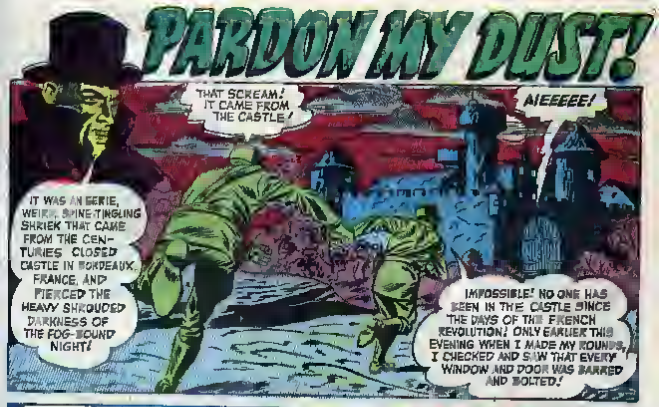
RUN, CHILDREN--RUN! HURRY!
STIRRED FROM SLUMBER, THE EVER-GROWING MONSTER CRASHES ITS WAY THROUGH THE PARK IN SEARCH OF FOOD!
KRAASH!
BANG! BANG!
AIM FOR ITS EYES! BULLETS JUST BOUNCE OFF THAT HARD SHELL!
EEEAHHH!
IT'S NO USE! OUR GUNS AREN'T ANY GOOD AGAINST IT! THE BULLETS DON'T EVEN SCRATCH HIM!
AT THIS INSTANT, PRINCE IBIS APPEARS!
GREAT ZOTH! IT'S GROWN AS BIG AS A BUILDING! EVEN THE STREET IS TOO NARROW FOR IT!
KRUNCH!
HELP!
IBIS--DO SOMETHING! THE MONSTER HAS TAKEN SOMEONE FROM THAT BUILDING! IT IT'S GOING TO FEED ON HIM!
IBISTICK! FORCE THE MONSTER TO RELEASE ITS PRISONER! LET A GIANT NET ENVELOP IT!
IBIS THE IBISTICK OBEYS...
OHHH! THE NET CAN'T HOLD IT!
NO EARTHLY WEAPON CAN DESTROY IT, TRIA!

ONLY ONE WAY TO COMBAT IT NOW! IBISTICK! LET ME GROW AS BIG AS THE SEA MONSTER!
THE POWERFUL MAGIC OF THE IBISTICK ENABLES PRINCE IBIS TO INCREASE HIS SIZE A HUNDRED FOLD!
NOW WE CAN SETTLE THIS ON EVEN TERMS!
BACK AND FORTH SWAYS THE FANTASTIC BATTLE, AS THE TWO TITANS STRUGGLE FOR MASTERY!
THOSE PINCERS COULD DEAL A TERRIBLE WOUND! I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL TO AVOID THEM!
GREAT ZOTH! WE'RE TOO BIG! WE'RE SMASHING THE BUILDINGS AROUND US!
CRASH!
IBISTICK! LET US BOTH BECOME LESS THAN A FOOT HIGH!
ONCE AGAIN, THE IBISTICK RESPONDS TO ITS MASTER'S COMMAND!
THIS CREATURE IS JUST AS STRONG AS EVER! I CAN'T GET THE BEST OF HIM!
OHHH! MY SHOULDER! THE JAGGED CLAWS...
GRAWGHHH!

WITH A CRY OF PAIN, PRINCE IBIS CRUMPLES! AND THE FRIGHTFUL CREATURE SCUTTLES AWAY GLIGHLY!
IBISTICK! RESTORE PRINCE IBIS TO HIS NORMAL SIZE!
GOOD GIRL, TAIA! THAT MONSTER MUSTN'T... ESCAPE...
WHERE WAS IT GONE? IT SCUTTLED AWAY DURING THE EXCITEMENT! HOW CAN WE FIND IT NOW?
WATER...IT MUST HAVE WATER... TO LIVE!
IT CAN'T BE...FAR AWAY! THE IBISTICK WILL LEAD US TO IT AGAIN! SEE HOW IT BEGINS TO QUIVER AS WE APPROACH THE MONSTER'S HIDING PLACE?
GRIMLY PURSUING IN THE WAKE OF HORROR, PRINCE IBIS AND HIS COMPANIONS ENTER THE BACK DOOR OF A RESTAURANT KITCHEN!
THE IBISTICK IS VIBRATING FURIOUSLY! THE MONSTER MUST BE SOMEWHERE NEAR!
GREAT ZOTH! I BELIEVE I KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED!
THIS RESTAURANT IS FAMOUS FOR ITS SEAFOOD! THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF CRUSTACEANS BOILING IN THESE GIANT POTS!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, IBIS! THE MONSTER...
SWIFTLY PRINCE IBIS LEADS HIS COMPANIONS ON A SEARCH FROM ONE TO ANOTHER OF THE GIANT POTS! THEN HE STOPS, AND POINTS WITH AN UNSTEADY FINGER!
REMEMBER, TAIA, THE IBISTICK REDUCED THE SEA MONSTER TO THE SIZE OF AN ORDINARY CRAB! AND IT KNEW NOTHING OF SUCH EARTHLY CUSTOMS AS COOKING! ALL IT KNEW WAS THAT WATER WAS NEARBY! LOOK!
OHHH!
GOOD GLORY!
SO THERE, IN THE STEAMING WATER, FLOATS AN UNGAINLY CREATURE OF THE OCEAN DEPTHS, CHANGING IN COLOR, NOW RED! PINK TO ANGRY CRIMSON AS LIFE ERUPTS OUT OF IT!
WE'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE MAN-EATER OF THE SEA AGAIN!

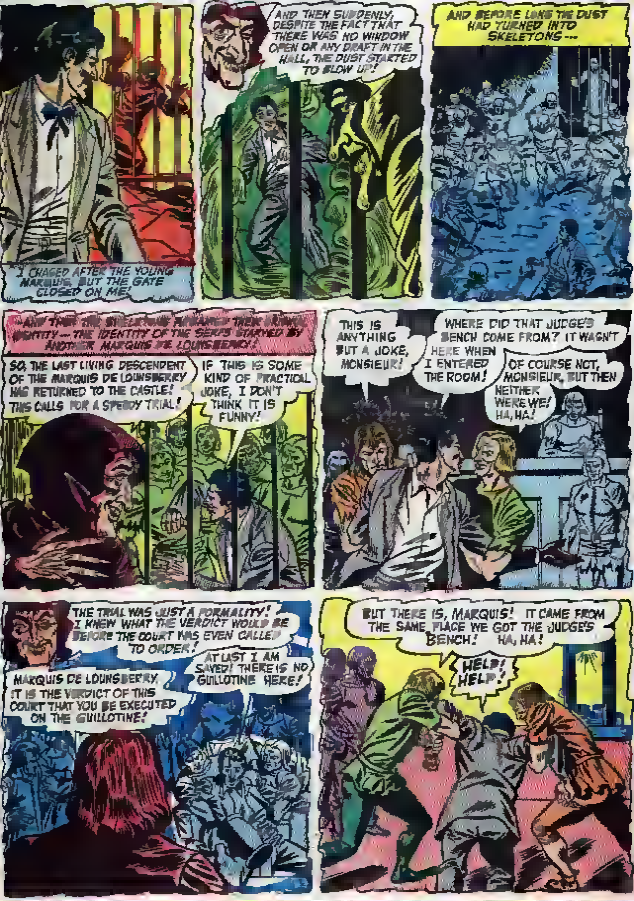
DOC SOREBONES
THE FLEXIBLE FEE!
I'VE FINISHED EXAMINING YOU! YOU CAN GET DRESSED NOW!
THANK YOU, DOCTOR! HERE IS YOUR MONEY!
HUH?
YOU PUT DOWN ONLY TWO DOLLARS! MY FEE IS TEN DOLLARS!
YOUR FEE IS TEN DOLLARS?
THAT'S FUNNY---
---I WAS TOLD IT WAS FIVE DOLLARS!
(GASP)!!!
WILBUR THE WAITER
CHICKEN FEED
I WANT SOME BROILED CHICKEN!
YES, SIR!
HORTLY AFTER...
HERE'S YOUR CHICKEN!
HEY, WAITER! COME HERE!
SEE HERE, WAITER! THIS CHICKEN IS COLD!
COLD? WELL, THAT'S NOT SURPRISING---
---IT'S BEEN DEAD FOR WEEKS!

PARDON MY DUST!


IT WAS AN EERIE, WEIRD, SPINE-TINGLING SHRIEK THAT CAME FROM THE CENTURIES CLOSED CASTLE IN BORDEAUX, FRANCE, AND PIERCED THE HEAVY SHROUDED DARKNESS OF THE FOG-BOUND NIGHT!
THAT SCREAM! IT CAME FROM THE CASTLE!
AIEEEEE!
IMPOSSIBLE! NO ONE HAS BEEN IN THE CASTLE SINCE THE DAYS OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION! ONLY EARLIER THIS EVENING WHEN I MADE MY ROUNDS, I CHECKED AND SAW THAT EVERY WINDOW AND DOOR WAS BARRED AND BOLTED!

WOW! IT LOOKS MORE LIKE THE WORK OF A GUILLOTINE!
LET'S SEE IF WE CAN PICK UP ANY CLUES!
UH-UNH? THE GATE WON'T BUDGE!
BUT THERE ARE NO WINDOWS IN THIS ROOM SO BOTH THE VICTIM AND THE MURDERER HAD TO GET THROUGH THIS GATE!
HE GOT THROUGH, MONSIEUR, ONLY BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO LET HIM THROUGH!
WHO IS THIS THEY WHO WANTED TO LET THE VICTIM GET THROUGH?
MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT--- WHO ARE YOU?
I AM THE CASTLE GUARD! WHEN I SAW THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY APPROACH, I WARNED HIM NOT TO ENTER, BUT HE WOULD NOT HEED MY ADVICE!
THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY? BUT DIDN'T THIS CASTLE ONCE BELONG TO HIS ANCESTORS?
YES! AND THAT IS WHY THE YOUNG MARQUIS IS DEAD NOW!
LOOK HERE, OLD-TIMER, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE AROUND, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL REALIZE THAT THINGS LOOK MIGHTY BAD FOR YOU! YOU'D BETTER TELL ALL YOU KNOW!
BACK IN THE DAYS JUST BEFORE THE REVOLUTION, THE HUNGRY SERFS WHO WORKED FOR THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY GOT TOGETHER ONE NIGHT TO DEMAND BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS FROM THE MARQUIS AND ---
ALL WE WISH, MONSIEUR MARQUIS IS A LITTLE MORE FOOD AND BETTER QUARTERS FOR OUR WIVES AND OUR CHILDREN!
THERE ARE SO MANY OF YOU. I SUGGEST WE GO INTO THE BALLROOM WHERE WE CAN TALK MORE COMFORTABLY!
BUT AS THE SERFS ENTERED THE BALLROOM---
MONSIEUR MARQUIS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS WILL TEACH YOU SERFS NOT TO BOTHER ME WITH YOUR TRIVIAL WORRIES ABOUT MORE FOOD! NOW YOU WILL ALL STAY HERE UNTIL YOU ROT!
YOU WILL NOT GET AWAY WITH THIS, MARQUIS! YOU AND EVERY DESCENDENT WHO ENTERS THIS CASTLE WILL LOSE HIS HEAD ON THE GUILLOTINE!
BOOM

THREATS OF SERFS DO NOT SCARE ME! I'LL JUST CLOSE THESE OUTSIDE DOORS SO I WON'T HEAR THE SCREAMS AS THEY SLOWLY STARVE TO DEATH!
AND BEFORE LONG, ALL THE SERFS WERE NOTHING MORE THAN SKELETONS, WHICH IN TIME TURNED TO DUST ---
I DO NOT LIKE TO ADMIT IT, BUT THIS DUST CLINGS TO THE FLOOR AS IF IT WERE FIGHTING TO SAVE ITS LIFE!
AND THEN WHEN THE REVOLUTION BROKE OUT, THE THREAT OF THE MARQUIS' IMPRISONED SERFS CAME TRUE.
IT IS THE VERDICT OF THIS COURT, MONSIEUR MARQUIS, THAT YOU DIE ON THE GUILLOTINE!
THE MARQUIS WAS ALWAYS AN EXCITABLE PERSON! LOOK! HE IS LOSING HIS HEAD AGAIN! HA, HA!
THAT WAS A MOST INTERESTING STORY! BUT WHAT HAS ALL THAT GOT TO DO WITH THE YOUNG MARQUIS LOSING HIS HEAD?
EVERYTHING! DID I NOT JUST TELL YOU HE WAS THE LAST DESCENDENT OF THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY?
WHEN THE YOUNG MARQUIS RACE PAST ME INTO THE HOUSE AGAINST MY ADVICE, I CHASED AFTER HIM.
MONSIEUR! KEEP AWAY FROM THAT BALLROOM! THAT IS WHERE YOUR GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER IMPRISONED THE SERFS AND STARVED THEM TO DEATH!
KEEP AWAY FROM THIS ROOM? BUT THIS IS THE ONE ROOM I WANT TO SEE MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE!
I THOUGHT THAT THE BARS BEHIND THE DOOR WOULD KEEP HIM OUT OF THE ROOM, BUT WHEN HE PULLED THE DOORS OPEN, THE BARS MYSTERIOUSLY OPENED, TOO!

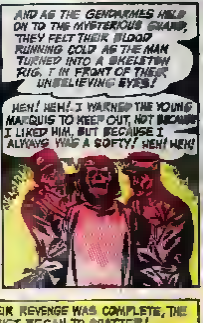

I CHASED AFTER THE YOUNG MARQUIS, BUT THE GATE CLOSED ON ME!
AND THEN SUDDENLY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THERE WAS NO WINDOW OPEN OR ANY DRAFT IN THE HALL, THE DUST STARTED TO BLOW UP!
AND BEFORE LONG THE DUST HAD TURNED INTO SKELETONS --
SO, THE LAST LIVING DESCENDENT OF THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY HAS RETURNED TO THE CASTLE! THIS CALLS FOR A SPEEDY TRIAL!
IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF PRACTICAL JOKE, I DON'T THINK IT IS FUNNY!
THIS IS ANYTHING BUT A JOKE, MONSIEUR!
WHERE DID THAT JUDGE'S BENCH COME FROM? IT WASN'T HERE WHEN I ENTERED THE ROOM!
OF COURSE NOT, MONSIEUR, BUT THEN NEITHER WERE WE! HA, HA!
THE TRIAL WAS JUST A FORMALITY! I KNEW WHAT THE VERDICT WOULD BE BEFORE THE COURT WAS EVEN CALLED TO ORDER!
AT LAST I AM SAVED! THERE'S NO GUILLOTINE HERE!
MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY, IT IS THE VERDICT OF THIS COURT THAT YOU BE EXECUTED ON THE GUILLOTINE!
BUT THERE IS, MARQUIS! IT CAME FROM THE SAME PLACE WE GOT THE JUDGE'S BENCH! HA, HA!
HELP! HELP!

THE MARQUIS WILL HAVE NO MORE HEADACHES!
AND NEITHER WILL WE! THE LAST OF THE LOUNSBERRYS HAS MET HIS JUST DESERT! HA, HA!
AHOO!

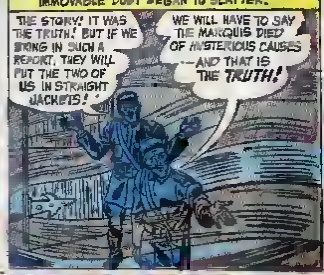
AND THAT'S HOW THE MARQUIS DE LOUNSBERRY WAS KILLED!
THERE IS NO GUILLOTINE OR JUDGE'S BENCH IN THIS ROOM! NOT THAT WE WOULD BELIEVE YOUR FANTASTIC STORY EVEN IF THERE WERE!
THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT YOU KILLED HIM! THE QUESTION IS HOW!

MAYBE YOU WILL BE MORE INCLINED TO TALK AFTER WE LOCK YOU UP!
NO, I WON'T!

AND WHY NOT?
BECAUSE I AM ONE OF THEM!


AND AS THE GENDARMES HELD ON TO THE MYSTERIOUS GHAMP, THEY FELT THEIR BLOOD RUNNING COLD AS THE MAN TURNED INTO A SKELETON RIG. IN FRONT OF THEIR UNBELIEVING EYES!
HEH! HEH!. I WARNED THE YOUNG MARQUIS TO KEEP OUT, NOT BECAUSE I LIKED HIM, BUT BECAUSE I ALWAYS WAS A SOFTY! HEH! HEH!

AND THEN THE SKELETON DISINTEGRATED INTO DUST!


AND NOW THAT THEIR REVENGE WAS COMPLETE, THE IMMOVABLE DUST BEGAN TO SCATTER!
THE STORY! IT WAS THE TRUTH! BUT IF WE BRING IN SUCH A REPORT, THEY WILL PUT THE TWO OF US IN STRAIGHT JACKETS!
WE WILL HAVE TO SAY THE MARQUIS DIED OF MYSTERIOUS CAUSES ---AND THAT IS THE TRUTH!

GOLDEN ARROW
IN TRAIL OF DEATH!
INDIANS! AND THEY RECKON ON MASSACRING THE WAGON DRIVERS.
LO'S GOLDEN ARROW, THE ROBIN HOOD OF THE OLD WEST, RIDES THROUGH MESA VALLEY---
BANG! BANG!
YI! YI!
KIYI!
BANG!
THE CRITTERS HAVE SHOT THE MULETEERS! I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!
UUFH!
BANG! BANG!
AIYEE! LOOK! MORE PALEFACE!
WE KILLUM HIM!

UGH! PALEFACE HEAP GOOD!
WE GO, QUICK! PALEFACE WITH ARROWS GOLDEN ARROW!
I'LL LET THEM GO! THESE MEN MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE!
THANKS--GASP--PARD! NO USE--END OF TRAIL--GASP--FOR ME...
SO LONG, PARD!
LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE U.S. MARSHAL IN THE FRONTIER TOWN OF STOCKWELL---
MARSHAL, SOMEONE IS ILLEGALLY SUPPLYING THE INDIANS WITH FIREARMS!
THIS IS A NEW TYPE OF ARMY RIFLE; GOLDEN ARROW! IF THE INDIANS GET ENOUGH OF THESE, THERE'S TROUBLE AHEAD--- PLENTY OF IT!
THERE'S CY HARDWICK! HE'S THE OWNER OF THE LARGEST FREIGHT LINES! I'D BETTER WARN HIM TO INSTRUCT HIS DRIVERS TO BE ON THE ALERT! HE'LL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS!
WHEN CY HARDWICK IS INFORMED OF THE RAID---
MY FREIGHT WAGONS WILL BE IN CONSTANT DANGER IF SOMETHING ISN'T DONE PRONTO!
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF YOUR DRIVERS HAVE BEEN CONCEALING GUNS IN THEIR WAGONS AND SELLING THEM TO THE INDIANS WHEN THEY REACH THE OUTPOSTS?
I DON'T THINK MY MEN WOULD DO SUCH A THING!

MAYBE NOT, HARDWICK, BUT JUST THE SAME I AM TO MOSEY OVER TO THE WAGON CAMP TONIGHT TO HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
MARSHAL'S OFFICE
BOSS! I'M MAKING A SPECIAL DELIVERY FOR DOC FERREL!
JUST BE CAREFUL HOW YOU HANDLE THOSE TANKS!
WHAT'S IN THOSE TANKS, HARDWICK?
DENTIST'S GAS! THE BLUE CAPPED TANKS CONTAIN ILLUMINATING GAS! THE NITROUS OXIDE, OR LAUGHING GAS, IS IN THE CONTAINERS WITH THE WHITE CAP! THE DIFFERENT COLORED CAPS ARE PUT ON TO PREVENT ACCIDENT!
UUUFF! DON'T MENTION DENTISTS! DOC FERREL HAS BEEN AFTER ME TO HAVE MY TOOTH YANKED! SEE YOU MEN TONIGHT! I'D LIKE BOTH OF YOU TO RIDE WITH ME TO THE WAGON CAMP!
WHAT HAPPENED
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MARSHAL? YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD!
MY TOOTH STARTED UP AGAIN! IT'S SO BAD I CAN'T HAVE IT PULLED UNTIL MORNING!
I'D SOONER FACE A PASSEL OF INDIANS, BUT I RECKON I'LL HAVE TO DO IT! WE'LL POSTPONE SEARCHING THE WAGONS UNTIL MORNING! NONE OF THE WAGONS ARE DUE TO LEAVE FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS!
THAT'S RIGHT, MARSHAL! MEANWHILE I'LL SHAKE DOWN MY WAGONS AND CHECK UP ON MY MEN!
WELL, I'LL BE MOSEYING ALONG TO MY WAGON CAMP! GOT SOME WORK TO DO!
ADIOS, CY!
GOLDEN ARROW, WHEN IT COMES TO GUN-RUNNING, I TRUST NO ONE, CY MIGHT BE ON THE LEVEL, HE MIGHT NOT! I'M GOING TO USE A LITTLE SUBTERFUGE. I WANT YOU TO RIDE OUT TO HIS WAGON CAMP AND SNOOP AROUND.
I GET IT, MARSHAL! YOU'RE USING YOUR TOOTHACHE AS AN EXCUSE NOT TO INSPECT THE WAGONS TONIGHT. IN THAT WAY, THE GUN-RUNNER NOT SEEING YOU WON'T SUSPECT ME.

CORRECT, SON! I WON'T LET A TOOTHACHE STOP ME FROM MY DUTY! CY MIGHT NOT BE INVOLVED, BUT ONE OF HIS MEN MIGHT BE THE SMUGGLER! YOU'RE MY UNDERCOVER AGENT, GOLDEN ARROW---GOOD LUCK!
THANKS, MARSHAL! I SHOULD BE BACK BY MORNING. TELL THE DOC NOT TO YANK THE WRONG TOOTH!
GOING TO A BUTTE ABOVE THE WAGON CAMP, GOLDEN ARROW TAKES STOCK OF THE SCENE BELOW!
THIS PLACE IS RIGHT BUSY! IT SURE LOOKS AS IF THE WAGONS ARE PREPARING TO MOVE OUT NOW!
SOMETHING MIGHTY SUSPICIOUS IS AFOOT! I RECKON I'LL CREEP UP AND HAVE A LOOK AT THAT WAGON JUST BELOW!
NOTHING UNUSUAL IN THIS ONE! I'LL INSPECT SOME OTHERS, THOUGH!
ARMY GUNS!
HUH!
WE GOT HIM!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
WE FOUND THIS JASPER SNOOPING IN ONE OF THE WAGONS, BOSS! HE MEANT TO DO SOME STEALING!

YOU'VE CORNERED GOLDEN ARROW!
WHAT! GOLDEN ARROW?
TELL YOUR MEN TO RELEASE ME, CY!
HA! HA! DON'T BE SUCH A FOOL, GOLDEN ARROW! I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE! I'M THE GUN-RUNNER!
GUN-RUNNING IS THE MOST PROFITABLE PART OF MY TRADING BUSINESS—AND I DON'T INTEND TO HAVE IT STOPPED BY YOU OR ANYONE ELSE!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT! IF I'M NOT BACK IN TOWN BY MORNING, THE MARSHAL WILL BE ON YOUR TRACK!
I'M GOING TO TAKE CARE OF THE MARSHAL, TOO, AND IN SUCH A WAY THAT NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT MURDER!
I DIDN'T KNOW THE LAWMAN HAD YOU AS HIS TRICK CARD, BUT I KNEW ONE, TOO! THE DENTIST'S GAS TANKS ARE STACKED OUTSIDE HIS OFFICE! TONIGHT I'M GOING TO CHANGE THE CAPS ON THEM! IN THE MORNING THE DOC WILL FIRED HIM ILLUMINATING GAS AND KILL HIM!
GAG AND TIE HIM UP AND PUT HIM INTO A WAGON! WHEN WE LEAVE TOMORROW, KILL HIM WHEN WE REACH THE PRAIRIE! LEAVE HIM THERE FOR BUZZARD BAIT!
COME ON, YOU!
DOGGED INTO A WAGON, GOLDEN ARROW ATTEMPTS TO CUT HIS BONDS!
IT WILL BE HOURS BEFORE I COULD FRAY THESE ROPES!

THROUGH THE NIGHT HE CONTINUES TO WORK THE ROUGH ROPE ACROSS THE GARDEN RAKE!
IT'S ALMOST DAWN! IF I DON'T MAKE IT OUT OF THIS CAMP BEFORE THE MEN AWAKEN, IT'LL BE THE END OF THE MARSHAL AND ME!
I MADE IT! I'M FREE!
GOOD OLD WHITE WIND! HE'S STILL WAITING FOR ME!
UNDETECTED, THE VALIANT TRAIL RIDER REACHES HIS HORSE!
SCRATCH GRAVEL, WHITE WIND! WE'VE GOT TO RIDE TO TOWN TO SAVE A LIFE!
I ONLY HOPE THAT WE GET TO THE DENTIST'S OFFICE BEFORE HE USES THE GAS ON THE MARSHAL!
I MIGHT NOT HAVE TIME TO RUN UP TO THE OFFICE IF THE MARSHAL IS THERE ALREADY!
HE'S GOT THE MASK ON ALREADY! STEADY, WHITE WIND! MY AIM HAS TO BE TRUE IF WE'RE GOING TO HELP AT ALL!

NOW I'LL TURN ON THE GAS AND YOU JUST BREATHE--- HUH!
A GOLDEN ARROW! SOMETHING'S UP!
CRASH
Z-Z-Z
MEANWHILE, IN THE STREET--
GOLDEN ARROW! BUT IT CAN'T BE!
IT IS, YOU MURDERING POLECAT!
AND THIS SOLID CONTACT WILL PROVE I'M NO GHOST!
CRASH!
YOUR CROOKED MURDEROUS CAREER IS AT AN END!
OW!
SOCK
IN FACT WHEN I GET FINISHED WITH YOU, YOUR ONE FACE WON'T BE WORTH LOOKING AT!
UNGH!
HERE'S YOUR GUN-RUNNER, MARSHAL!
LATER---
HERE'S YORE ANSWER FROM THE ARMY OUTPOST, MARSHAL!
THANKS, BROWNIE! I SENT A MESSENGER TO THE ARMY OUTPOST INSTRUCTING THEM TO CONFISCATE THE GUNS WHEN THE WAGON TRAIN ARRIVES!
AND WITH THE HEAD OF THE OUTFIT IN JAIL I RECKON WE WON'T HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE FOR A SPELL!
THE MILITIA HAS CAPTURED CY'S MEN AND CONFISCATED THE GUNS. THEY'RE SENDING OVER AN ARMY GUARD TO ESCORT CY TO THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY.

(Continued from inside front cover)

used to live lo e town just about this else One of my greatest thrills as a kid was picking wild strawberries. I think the greatest dessert I ever ate was strawberry shortcake' Wicky a father made a meutal note of that statement He decided ha'd ba ible to use It ta good advantage.

Meanwhile, Wicky was bitterly disappointed that the snow had snapped. All his plans for a ski-jumping contest and a sleigh ride and the building of a snow fort seemed to be quashed. But Wicky had imagination The snow suggested a business project to him He was soon gathering all the snow thar was left, making hasty snowballs, and burrying indoors with them

Wicky had a great idea and he knew there was some empty space lu the family's deep-freeze. He found containers and squeezed snowballs into them. It didn't matter to him that the containers were labeled "strawberries" He knew where he had stored his snowballs

"Oh, boy! I'll make plenty of money next July!" thought Wicky "I'll sell snowballs a dima apiece!"

After rouring the plant with Mr Bigwheel, Mr Burke had barely enough time to come home, shower, and put on a fresh suit before dinner But just before hurrying from the house he found enough time to open the deep-freeze and take out a couple of packages labeled "strawberries."

'The boss said he loves strawberries. I'll really surprise him with these!" thenght Mr Burke

Mr Burke took the elevator up to Mr Bigwheel's room on the fourteenth floor of the hotel As he entered he handed over the cartons he had taken from the deepfreeze

'Strawberries!" exclaimed Mr Bigwheel "And you say you raised them in your own garden? Burke, you're a prince Come on, we'll go dawn to the dining room and I'll give these berries to the chef He ought to be able to whip up a fine shortcake by the time we're ready for dessert!'

Mr Bigwheel put the boxes in his coat pocket and the two men headed for the elevatar During the downward ride, Mr. Bigwheel's pockets begau dripping Water ran down his legs. He gave Mr Burke a dirty look and pulled aut one of the boxes labeled "strawberries.' He apened it. It was full of melted snow that sloshed ant and spattered on his shirt. He gave Mr Burke au even dirtier look

"Burke!" he growled 'the nan thing that I hate warst of all lu the world is a practical jnker! There is no place in our organizatron for jakers As of right now you are ,"

A youthful voice interrupted It was Wicky rushing across the hotel lobby and yelling, 'Daddy, Daddy! You took my snawballs out of the deepfreeze! Are they melted, ar anythiug?'

Mr Bigwheel looked at Wicky, then he looked at Mr Burke then he looked at the dripping pockets of his coat. Suddenly he burst inic laughter a rumbling, thundering laughter that caneed everyone in the hatel lobby to turn and stare

Still laughing he said 'Sa you put snowballs in the deepfreeze eh, boy? What ware you going to do with them?

'I was planning to sell them next July," said Wicky "There's usually a shortage of snawballs in July and they'd bring a good price!"

MR. BIGWHEEL laughed again, "Burke,' he said, "you get a raise and a promation. Your son is the smartest business man I ever met and his dad is bound to be even smarter Come on, both af you. Let's eat For dessert we'll have pia ala mode'

THE END

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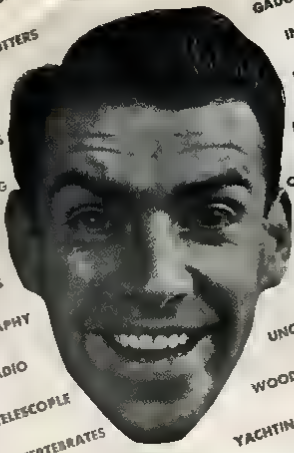

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